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Diffolve the Marriage of *Thomas Brooke*,
Doctor in Phyfic, with *Harriett Nelthorpe*,
his now Wife, and to enable him to marry
again; and for other Purposes therein men-
tioned.

HUMBL Y Sheweth and Complaineth to your most Excellent
MAJESTY, your true and loyal Subject *Thomas Brooke*, of the Parisha
of *Saint James Westminster*, in the County of *Middlesex*, Doctor in
Phyfic, that on or about the fifteenth Day of *July*, One thousand seven
hundred and forty seven, your said Subject was married at *May-fair*
Chappel, in the Parish of *Saint George, Hanover Square*, in the said
County of *Middlesex*, to *Harriett Nelthorpe*, then of *Newington Butts*, in
the County of *Surry*, Spinster:

That your Subject and his said Wife lived and cohabited together as
Man and Wife for several Years after the said Marriage, but have not
any Issue between them:

That in the Month of *March*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty
six, the said *Harriett* entered into an unlawful, criminal and adulterous
conversation with one *Edward Hoare*, Esquire; and in the same Month
of *March*, eloped from your said Subject her Husband, and went to
the said *Edward Hoare*, and continued to live with him in a course of
Adultery, and they cohabited together as Man and Wife, from the
time of such her Elopement for a considerable Time, and your said Sub-
ject, from the Time of the said Elopement or Departure of his said
Wife, hath never cohabited or had any Intercourse with her:

That

That your said Subject, since the Elopement or Departure of his said Wife, hath libelled against her in the *Consistory Court* of the Bishop of London, and thereupon obtained a definitive Sentence of Divorce from Bed, Board, and mutual Cohabitation, for Adultery committed with the said Edward Hoare, and hath also brought an Action in his Majesty's Court of Common Pleas, at Westminster, against the said Edward Hoare, for the said criminal Conversation, and therein obtained a Verdict and a Judgment thereupon, against him, for Five hundred Pounds Damages, and which Judgment now remains upon Record in the said Court of Common Pleas.

Forasmuch therefore as your said Subject's said Wife hath, by her adulterous Behaviour, dissolved the Bond of Marriage on her part, and your said Subject now stands deprived of the Comforts of Matrimony, and of the Hope of Issue to succeed to and enjoy his Estate and Fortune, other than such a spurious Issue as may be imposed upon him, unless his present Marriage should be declared void, and annulled by Authority of Parliament, and he be thereby enabled to marry again:

May it therefore please your most Excellent MAJESTY,

Out of your princely Goodness and Compassion to the said Misfortune and Calamity of your said Subject, That it may be Enacted, and Be it Enacted, by the KING's most Excellent MAJESTY, by, and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the said Bond of Matrimony being violated and broken, by the manifest and open Adultery, of the said Harriett, be, and is from henceforth, wholly dissolved, annulled, vacated, and made void, to all Intents, Constructions, and Purposes whatsoever, and that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Thomas Brooke, at any Time or Times hereafter, to contract Matrimony, and to marry, as well in the Life-time of the said Harriett, as if she was naturally dead, with any other Woman or Women, with whom he might lawfully marry, in case the said Harriett was not living; and that such Matrimony, Marriage, and Marriages, when had and celebrated, shall be good, just, and lawful, and so shall be adjudged, deemed, and taken to all Intents, Construction, and Purposes, and that all and every Child and Children, born in such Matrimony, shall be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be born in lawful Wedlock, and to be legitimate and inheritable to, and shall inherit and be capable of inheriting all the Lands, Tenements, and other Hereditaments of, from and by, his, her and their Father, Mother and other Ancestors, in like Manner and Form as any other Child or Children, born in lawful Matrimony, shall, or may, or could, or might inherit or be inheritable unto, according to the Course of Inheritance used in this Realm, or in any of his Majesty's Dominions thereunto belonging, and to have and enjoy all Privileges, Pre-

Preeminences, Benefits and Advantages, Claims and demands whatsoever, in as full and ample Manner, as any other Child or Children, born in lawful Wedlock, can or may have or claim, by the Laws and Customs of this Kingdom, or of any of his Majesty's Dominions thereunto belonging:

And be it further Enacted, That the said *Thomas Brooke*, shall be entitled to be Tenant, by the Curtesy of the Lands and Hereditaments of such Wife or Wives as he shall so marry, and that such Wife or Wives shall be entitled to Dower of the Lands and Tenements, whereof the said *Thomas Brooke* shall be seized, of such Estate whereof she or they shall be dowable as any other Husband or Wife may or might claim, have or enjoy, and that the Child or Children, born in such Marriage or Marriages, shall and may derive and make title by Descent or otherwise, to and from any of his, her or their Ancestors, as any other Child or Children can or may do any Law, Statute, Restraint, Prohibition, Ordinance, Canon, Constitution, Prescription or Custom, had, made, exercised or used to the contrary of the Premises, or any of them, in anywise notwithstanding:

And be it further Enacted and Declared, by the Authority aforesaid, That no Child or Children, which hereafter shall be born of the Body of the said *Harriett*, shall be deemed, taken or reputed to be the lawful Issue of the said *Thomas Brooke*, on the Body of the said *Harriett* begotten:

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the said *Harriett* shall be, and is hereby barred and excluded of and from all Dower and Thirds, and of and from all right and title of Dower and Thirds, or other Claim and Demand, in, to, or out of any the Lands, Tenements or Hereditaments of the said *Thomas Brooke*, and of and from all Right, Title, Claim and Demand of, in, to or out of any Estate or Effects real or personal whatsoever, assigned, settled or assured, or stipulated, covenanted and agreed to be assigned, settled, or assured, in Prospect or Consideration of the said Marriage, between the said *Harriett* and the said *Thomas Brooke*, or at any time after the said Marriage as a Provision for the said *Harriett*, or the Issue of her Body, or in any other manner, for her and their Use and Benefit, and all such Estate and Effects, so settled and assured, or agreed to be so settled, or assured and all Interest and Benefit thereof and therein shall from henceforth remain and be, to and for the only Use and Benefit of the said *Thomas Brooke*, for such Estates and Interests, and in such Manner and Form, as he would be intitled to the same, if the said *Harriett*, was now naturally dead without Issue of her Body:

Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend, to vacate, defeat, impeach or destroy any Provision or Agreement for any Provision, or Payment of any Sum or Sums of Money made or stipulated, or agreed to be made for the

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Maintenance, Support or Benefit of the said *Harriett*, out of the Estate, Fortune or Effects of them the said *Thomas Brooke* and *Harriett*, or either of them, at any Time after the obtaining the said Sentence of Divorce, in the *Consistory Court* of the Bishop of *London* as aforesaid; but that the same, and particularly a certain Indenture tripartite, bearing date the twenty-eighth Day of November, One thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, made, or mentioned to be made, between the said *Thomas Brooke* of the first part, the said *Harriett*, by the Name and Description of *Harriett Brooke*, Wife of the said *Thomas Brooke*, late *Harriett Nelthorpe*, Spinster, one of the Daughters of Sir *Henry Nelthorpe*, Baronet, deceased, of the second part, and *Michael Shuckmell*, of the Parish of *Saint Martin in the Fields*, in the said County of *Middlesex*, Jeweller, of the Third part, and the several Stipulations and Agreements therein contained, as well on the Part and Behalf of the said *Harriett*, as on the Part and Behalf of the said *Thomas Brooke*, shall be, and is, and are hereby confirmed, and shall remain in full force for the Purposes thereby intended.

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Dissolve the Marriage of *Thomas Brooke*, Doctor in Physic, with *Harriett Nelthorpe* his now Wife, and to enable him to marry again; and for other Purposes therein mentioned.

[1768.]

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